(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the remaining part of the grant would be made available to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) On 15.02.2002, Rs. 23.70 crore was released to Government of Gujarat against the State's claim of Rs. 41.02 crore for reimbursement of the payment of salary to the teachers. Further grants could not be released to Government of Gujarat due to non-receipt of clarification on pending audit para in respect of excess release of grants under the scheme.

Anti-ragging committees

762. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Central Universities have not constituted anti-ragging committees as required under Supreme Court's directions;

(b) if so, the names of these universities and the reasons for their not following Supreme Court's directions; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter and by when the concerned universities are likely to constitute anti-ragging committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Vacancies in Kendriya Vidyalayas in North Eastern Region

763. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 5,000 posts of teachers are lying vacant in the Kendriya Vidyalayas of North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the local talent available in abundance is being taped to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (b) No, Sir. However, 867 posts were lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the North East Region as on 1.08.2007 for various reasons which include retirement, resignation, termination from services of employees, opening of new KVs, upgradation of existing schools and" non-joining of duties by candidates on direct recruitment/promotion.

(c) Recruitment in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) for all posts, except for Group -'D', is done on all India basis, through open competition. Candidates from

the North East can also apply and compete for those posts. Local .teachers are also appointed in KVs on part-time basis till the posts are filled up by regular teachers.

Stoppage of ragging

764. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any step to stop ragging in colleges as the new academic year is about to start; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is implementing those of the recommendations of the Report on Prevention of Ragging in Educational Institutions as have been accepted by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in a matter before the Apex court. Instructions have been issued to University Grants Commission, other Statutory Bodies and higher educational institutions to follow the instructions contained in the Report like constituting Monitoring Cells at the University level, forming Anti-Ragging Committees and Anti-Ragging Squads at the institutional level and enforcing the penal clause strictly as enshrined in the Report. Advertisements have been published in print media to generate awareness against the menace of ragging in educational institutions. State Governments have also been requested to comply with the directions of the Apex Court.

Drop out in Jharkhand

765. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drop out rate in Jharkhand is above 80 per cent;

(b) the literacy rate among the tribals of the State during the last three years; gender-wise;

(c) the school drop out among the tribals of the state; and

(d) the steps Government propose to retain tribal children in schools and improve the tribal human resource?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Since drop-out data relate to figures collected over a period of time, the data, currently available for the year 2004-05 relate to Bihar including Jharkhand, is given below: